

Proposed Lyle Falls Fish Passage Project
Public Scoping Meeting Comments
July 11, 2006

- Consider Atlantic salmon entering Lyle Falls.
- Keep the existing pipe for safety reasons protecting the public and fishers.
- Concern over non-Native fish.
- Does this project include cleaning out the mouth of the Klickitat River?
- Impacts of Bonneville Dam pools.
- Maintenance of the fish ladder should be done by Tribal members.
- Concern over destruction of the river due to construction.
- Proposed project could impact upper river fishing...must be at least 25 feet away from the fish passage exit/entrance.
- Analyze vandalism to Tribal cemeteries.
- Western gray squirrel is on State threatened list.
- Tribal employment opportunities associated with the fish ladder construction.
- Hook and line fishing sites could be lost around the corner from the project.
- Fish are smaller now because we make it too easy for them to go up the falls-they loose their strength.
- The existing vertical walls of the fish ladder are not good for lampreys, which are favored fish among the Yakama Nation.
- Make sure any construction for improvements to the fish ladder don't invade use on the "rails to trails" trail nearby. Specifically referring to the contractor's equipment yard not crossing the trail.
- Please construct the fish passage improvement during low flow periods such as late October and early November in order for the least amount of impact to fish.
- Construction should be scheduled to avoid the nesting/mating time of the nearby ESA listed Osprey nest.
- During construction try to minimize any visual disturbance on the nearby "rails to trails" trail.
- Klickitat good rearing habitat for Lamprey juveniles due to cold runoff from the mountains.
- Need to fix the attraction flow (exit upstream) – terrible gravel issues & O&M concerns.
- The gravel wash blocks the flow through the fishway; the fish become confused, spawn in the ladder, and then the eggs are washed out from the high flows and lost.
- Regarding the adult trap - a water to water transfer is preferred.
- This year's fish were 5 weeks late due to high water; hundreds of fish came through the ladder and very few through the river fishway. Terrible fishing this year.
- The Klickitat has a life of an unnatural river – armoured by the RR on one side and public roads on the other – the river has become channelized and needs to be fixed; allow the floodplains to be revitalized.
- The adjacent landowners to the Rails to Trails need to be reminded that the RR owned that property – they didn't have easements like is commonly thought and therefore, the adjacent landowners do not have the right to take the property as their own.